

**LEGISLATIVE EDUCATION STUDY COMMITTEE
BILL ANALYSIS**

Bill No: HB 209

48th Legislature, 2nd Session, 2008

Short Title: Albuquerque Children's Museum Programs

Sponsor(s): Representative Danice Picraux and Others

Analyst: James Ball

Date: January 21, 2008

Bill Summary:

HB 209 makes an appropriation to contract for statewide education programs by a science center and children's museum in Albuquerque.

Fiscal Impact:

\$150,000 is appropriated from the General Fund to the Department of Cultural Affairs (DCA) for FY 09. The bill contains a reversion clause.

Issues:

According to DCA the programs specified in SB 209 refer to the Explora Science Center & Children's Museum, located in Albuquerque. The appropriation would support outreach activities to communities statewide, focusing on young children, their caregivers, and the educators who serve them. Specifically, Explora has outlined four areas of continued outreach programming that will be supported by this appropriation:

- a school-based outreach program that provides standards-based presentations in classrooms throughout the state;
- a program that brings school-groups from all over the state to Explora to visit exhibits and participate in standards-based lessons;
- overnight "camp-ins," which allow groups from many communities to utilize the Explora facility and participate in overnight programs; and
- professional development programs for New Mexico educators, including instructional materials and training opportunities for educators and caregivers of preschool children in selected communities.

According to the Legislative Finance Committee, regular contract funding of \$100,000 has been recommended for DCA's Program Support Division for FY 09. The funds in SB 209 would be an addition to the support provided through DCA's operating budget and could significantly expand the state's relationship with the Children's Museum.

Related Bill:

HB 45 *CYFD Roswell Science Festival Support*